



# Brownfield Basics



## What are brownfields?

Brownfields are properties that are abandoned or underutilized due to real or perceived contamination. Brownfields can include abandoned factories, former dry cleaning establishments, vacant gas stations, illegal drug labs, old dumps and mine-scarred lands. There are an estimated 8,000 brownfields in Kentucky.

## How do brownfields impact my community?

Brownfields can:

- Cause harm to human health and the environment
- Reduce employment opportunities and tax revenue
- Contribute to neighborhood crime
- Reduce surrounding property values
- Limit economic growth and development

## Why redevelop a brownfield?

A brownfield is a unique opportunity to turn a perceived problem property into an economic development project or a community enhancing recreation area. By remediating and redeveloping brownfield properties, a city or town can restore properties to active use, increase the job and local tax base, mitigate public health and safety concerns, and improve community image.

### Contact Us

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**The Kentucky Brownfield Program**  
*Recycling the Commonwealth*

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